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LB 1024

SENATOR KOPPLIN: I don't care (laugh).

SENATOR MINES: I know, too, that you introduced a bill in Education Committee, and it evidently didn't come out. I'm curious what your bill might have done.

SENATOR KOPPLIN: My bill was, first of all, to clarify that boundaries don't change simply because a city annexes other areas.

SENATOR MINES: Okay.

SENATOR KOPPLIN: It also provided for some option enrollment things, but it...I'm going to be very honest with you and say it did not approach far enough what we need to do for children in the classroom.

SENATOR MINES: Okay. Well, it's my perspective that Senator Bourne's amendment is a right-in-your-face amendment. You're going to do it; we're going to give the authority to the coordinating commission and they are, in fact, going to define what diversity means. I'm not sure that that's exactly the answer, but on the other hand, I'm afraid that if we don't take on this issue right now, we may not get back to it. Is that your sense? Is this a one time, and then we're not going to talk about diversity again?

SENATOR KOPPLIN: I would say if the...in my opinion,...

SENATOR MINES: Sure.

SENATOR KOPPLIN: If this amendment does not pass in some way, we will not return to it--my opinion.

SENATOR MINES: I understand. Well, thank you very much. I do appreciate your expertise. Thank you. Colleagues, having heard that, and I do respect Senator Kopplin's opinion, I'm afraid that if we don't somehow plug in the diversity issue, that we're going to lose much of the sense of what this entire process is about. I'm not favoring either side at this point, but